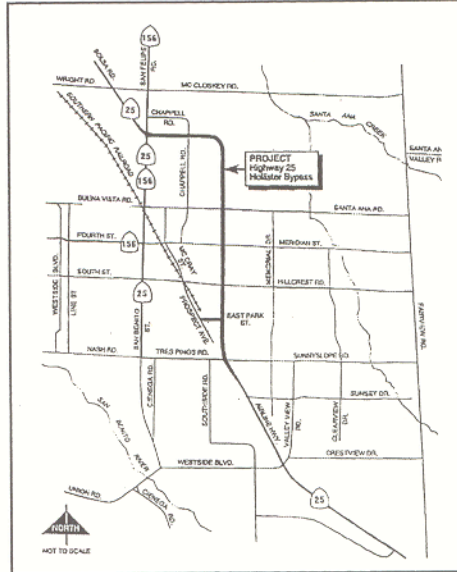


PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE HIGHWAY 25 HOLLISTER BYPASS PROJECT

The San Benito County Measure A Authority (SBCMAA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to construct the Highway 25 Bypass through an area north and east of downtown Hollister between the intersection of existing Airline Highway (SR 25)/Prospect Avenue and Tres Pinos Road/Sunnyslope Road, southeast of downtown, and the intersection of Bolsa Road (SR 25) and San Felipe Road (SR 156), north of downtown. The proposed improvements would relieve congestion in downtown Hollister and improve traffic circulation in and around the city by providing a new through traffic facility to serve increasing travel demand.



SBCMAA, Caltrans and the FHWA have prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to assess potential impacts of the proposed project. The environmental studies show that with the incorporation of mitigation measures, the proposed project will not significantly affect the quality of the environment. The Draft EA is available for public review and comment beginning April 17, 2002. Written comments may be submitted through May 31, 2002 to Mr. George Lewis, San Benito County Measure A Authority, 3216 Southside Road, Hollister, CA 95023. Members of the public may also submit comments at the project open house and public hearing.

WHERE TO REVIEW THE DRAFT EA

The Draft EA may be reviewed or copied during normal business hours at the following locations:

**San Benito County
Measure A Authority**
3216 Southside Road
Hollister, CA

Hollister City Hall
375 Fifth Street
Hollister, CA

**San Benito County
Library**
470 Fifth Street
Hollister, CA

OPEN HOUSE AND PUBLIC HEARING

An open house and public hearing will be held to provide the opportunity to comment on the document and discuss certain design features of the project with SBCMAA and Caltrans' staff before the final design is selected. The tentative construction schedule will also be discussed. Persons wishing to comment may do so by making a formal statement at the public hearing or submitting comments in writing.

Thursday, May 16, 2002

6:00 p.m. Open House 7:00 p.m. Public Hearing

San Benito County Board of Supervisors Chambers

481 Fourth Street
Hollister, California

The meeting facilities are ADA accessible. Individuals who will need help with translation and/or accessible services should call Ms. Alisha Cardenas (SBCMAA) at (831) 637-7665, 72 hours prior to the public hearing. Hearing impaired individuals may obtain meeting information by calling the California Relay Service and asking the TTY operator to call (800) 735-2929.

For additional information, please contact Mr. George Lewis, SBCMAA, 3216 Southside Road, Hollister, California 95023, or phone (831) 636-4305.